

Application No. 10/510,534
Filed: April 20, 2005
TC Art Unit: 1744
Confirmation No.: 2313

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 and 2; cancel claims 4-6 without prejudice; and add claim 7 as shown in the Status of the Claims section, *infra*. No new matter has been added. Additions are underlined and deletions are struck-through or enclosed between double brackets ([[]]).

Claim 7 corresponds to claim 3, however, depending from claim 2 instead of claim 1.

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Application No. 10/510,534

Filed: April 20, 2005

TC Art Unit: 1744

Confirmation No.: 2313

AUG 15 2007

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A toothbrush comprising at least one of:

bristles extending from a head portion, having an inner portion near the head and an outer portion, the bristles being of a synthetic resin mixed with which a product obtained by pulverizing scallop shells having ~~a~~crystalline structural body of calcite type structure of crystalline calcium carbonate is mixed,
or

a handle having the head portion, the handle being of a synthetic resin mixed with which a product obtained by pulverizing scallop shells having ~~a~~crystalline structural body of calcite type structure of crystalline calcium carbonate is mixed,

wherein said product ~~is~~ is more densely distributed on an outside ~~portionsurface~~ surface of each of the bristles or on a surface of the handle than, respectively, on the ~~inner~~ inner inside portion of each of the bristles or an inner portion of said handle.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) A toothbrush comprising:

~~at least one of~~ bristles extending from a head portion, having an inner portion near the head and an outer portion, the bristles being coated with a coating material containing a product obtained by pulverizing scallop shells having ~~a~~crystalline structural body of calcite type structure of crystalline calcium carbonate; ~~and~~ and

a handle having the head portion, the handle being of a synthetic resin mixed with a product obtained by pulverizing

Application No. 10/510,534

Filed: April 20, 2005

TC Art Unit: 1744

Confirmation No.: 2313

~~scallop shells having a structural body of crystalline calcium carbonate, coated with a coating material containing a product obtained by pulverizing shells having crystalline structural body of calcite type structure of calcium carbonate,~~

~~wherein said product[[s]] is[[are]] more densely distributed on an outside surface of each of the bristles or on a surface of the handle than, respectively, on an inside portion of each of the bristles or an inner portion of said handle.~~

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein the product is a mixture of a calcium carbonate powder comprising porous granules which is a shell powder having crystalline structural body of calcite type structure of calcium carbonate and a calcium oxide powder prepared by calcining the calcium carbonate powder, or an aqueous solution of the mixture.

Claims 4-6. (Canceled)

Claim 7. (New) The toothbrush according to Claim 2, wherein the product is a mixture of a calcium carbonate powder comprising porous granules which is a shell powder having crystalline structural body of calcite type structure of calcium carbonate and a calcium oxide powder prepared by calcining the calcium carbonate powder, or an aqueous solution of the mixture.